

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TAIPEI 02792 210258Z

64

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 FEA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 OFA-01 DLOS-03

/031 W

----- 115938

P 210218Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5241

INFO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY

USLO PEKING PRIORITY

AMCONSUL HONG KONG PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 2792

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, CH, TW

SUBJECT: OIL DRILLING SUPPLY VESSEL

REF: (A) STATE 117811 (B) SINGAPORE 2117

1. CONOCO VICE PRESIDENT-EXPLORATION MANAGER, CONFIRMS THAT M/V ARIEL UNDER CONTRACT AND NOW PROCEEDING TO TAIWAN WATERS. VESSEL DUE TO ARRIVE ON OR ABOUT MAY 27.

2. ARIEL IS 165 FEET 294 TON STANDARD WORK-TYPE VESSEL AND WILL BE EMPLOYED FOR ABOUT 30 DAYS IN CORING AND OTHER OPERATIONS RELATING TO PRODUCTION PLATFORM FOUNDATION DESIGN.

3. VESSEL WILL OPERATE IN 15 SQUARE MILE AREA AROUND F-1 GAS FIND WELL (N22-31-31 E119-18-29).

4. ACCORDING TO CONOCO VP PLANS FOR THIS WORK HAVE BEEN IN MILL FOR SEVERAL MONTHS BUT PROBLEMS AROSE OVER VESSEL ORIGINALLY CONTRACTED FOR TO DO THIS WORK. IN ORDER TO "BEAT" THE TYPHOON SEASON ARRANGEMENTS WERE HURRIEDLY CONCLUDED WITH OFFSHORE LOGISTICS FOR THE ARIEL.

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VP INDICATED THAT IT PROBABLY "TOO LATE" TO EFFECT CHANGE

IN REGISTRY AS VESSEL ALREADY ENROUTE. HOWEVER, CONOCO
WILL LOOK INTO "OTHER POSSIBILITIES" WITH VIEW IN MIND
OF USG POSITION ON USE OF AMERICAN FLAG VESSELS IN OIL
EXPLORATION IN DISPUTED WATERS.

5. ARIEL HAS MIXED NATIONALITY CREW INCLUDING SOME AMERICANS.

6. CONOCO VP ALSO STATED THAT IT IS NORMAL AND ROUTINE
PROCEDURE THAT AMERICAN REGISTRY WORK VESSEL FLY THE US
AND HOST COUNTRY FLAG WHILE IN PORT AND NO FLAG IS FLOWN
WHILE ENGAGED IN WORKING OPERATIONS. ARIEL WILL
FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE. POPPLE

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Message Attributes

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EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

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